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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/776,093	02/10/2004	Timothy Robbins	2032	2358

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EXAMINER

MORROW, JASON S

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3612

DATE MAILED: 02/17/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/776,093

Applicant(s)

ROBBINS, TIMOTHY

Examiner

Jason S. Morrow

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 13-20 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,6-8,11 and 12 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 2-5,9 and 10 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 10 February 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. This application does not contain an abstract of the disclosure as required by 37 CFR 1.72(b). An abstract on a separate sheet is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1, 6-8, 11, and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Carriere.

Carriere discloses a cover adapted to mount over a frame extender on a vehicle wherein said frame extender includes a generally C-shaped framework having a pair of leg sections and a central section joining said leg sections at one end thereof, said cover comprising first and second panels (the front and rear panels in figure 1) each having a front edge, a rear edge and a pair of side edges, a pair of side panels (to which 14 are attached in figure 1) each having opposite first and second side edges, a front side edge and a rear side edge, each of said side panels being joined to said first and second panels along the respective side edges thereof, an end panel (the bottom panel in figure 1) having opposite first and second edges and opposite end edges, said end edges being joined to the respective rear side edges of said side panels and said first and second edges being joined, respectively, to the rear edges of said first and second panels

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thereby to form an enclosure with an opening and an interior sized and adapted to receive said C-shaped framework therein such that said end panel is positioned in confronting relation to said central section and such that said side panels are each positioned in confronting relation to a respective said leg section; and a closure panel (the open top panel shown in figure 7) adapted selectively to open the opening of said enclosure to define an open state and to close the opening of said enclosure to define a closed state.

Re claim 6, a releasable fastener (22) is associated with said closure panel and operative to retain said closure panel in the closed state.

Re claim 7, said closure panel has a first edge that is secured to said first panel along the front edge thereof and including one-half of a cooperative fastener on a second edge thereof opposite said first edge, said second panel including another half of said cooperative fastener along the front edge thereof (see figure 7).

Re claim 8, the cooperative fastener is a zipper.

Re claim 11, each of said first and second panels, each of said side panels, said end panel and said closure panel is formed of a flexible material.

Re claim 12, said flexible material is selected from a group consisting of canvas, plastic, and synthetic fabrics (see column 2, lines 13-20).

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 2-5, 9, and 10 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

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5. Claims 13-20 are allowed.

Conclusion

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. White, Ootsuka et al., and Leitner et al. disclose vehicle bed extenders. Troccola, Reid, and Hancock disclose vehicle covers.

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jason S. Morrow whose telephone number is (703) 305-7803.

The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 8:00a.m.-4:30p.m..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Glenn Dayoan can be reached on (703) 308-3102. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

February 15, 2005

Jason S. Morrow
Examiner
Art Unit 3612

JASON MORROW
PRIMARY PATENT EXAMINER

2/15/05